GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3988
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
SUBMARINE CABLE LANDING STATION
SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have declared Gujarat coast as security Sensitive Area in clause-13 of the guidelines for setting up of Submarine Cable Landing Station for International Gateway of Internet;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has proposed to the Union Government for review of the said guidelines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) Guidelines were announced by the Government in the year 2000 regarding International Gateways for Internet using Submarine cable Medium. As per Clause 13 of the guidelines for setting up of Submarine Cable Landing Stations for International Gateways for Internet, setting up of landing stations was not permitted in security sensitive areas including coastal areas of Gujrat.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of Gujarat had urged that in the interest of economic development of Gujarat, the restriction of setting up of Submarine Cable Landing Stations in coastal areas of Gujarat be removed. Government had subsequently considered the issue and decided to permit setting up of International gateways in security sensitive areas including submarine cable landing stations in security sensitive areas which includes coastal areas of Gujarat also, subject to setting up of appropriate monitoring equipments by the Security Agencies and appropriate charges to be paid by the licensee towards monitoring equipments or setting up of monitoring equipment